

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EA-11 IO-12 IGA-02 CEA-02 STR-08

AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 AF-10 ARA-11 NEA-10 RSR-01 /241 W

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R 262126 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 938

S E C R E T OTTAWA 1006

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, IBRD, VS, CA

SUBJECT: IBRD AID CONSORTIUM FOR SOUTH VIETNAM

REF: (A) STATE 71066 (B) STATE 71100 (C) OTTAWA 927

(D) OTTAWA 964

BEGIN SUMMARY. WE CONTINUE TO HAVE RESERVATIONS REGARDING BILATERAL APPROACH TO GOC AT THIS TIME ON HIGHER LEVELS AID FOR SOUTH VIETNAM. CANADA'S PARTICIPATION ICCS MAKES IT UNIQUE AMONG COUNTRIES TO BE CONSULTED IN ACCORDANCE REFS A AND B. IF GOC DECIDES CONTINUE PEACE SUPERVISORY ROLE BEYOND JUNE 30, THERE LIKELY TO BE STILL GREATER RELUCTANCE JOIN CONSORTIUM FOR SOUTH VIETNAM IN ABSENCE ANNOUNCEMENT BALANCING PACKAGE FOR NORTH. ALTERNATIVELY, IN FACE GROWING CONCERN OVER CONTINUED ICCS MEMBERSHIP (REF D) U. S. PRESSURE TO JOIN CONSORTIUM COULD BE INSTRUMENTAL AT LEAST PRESENTATIONALLY, IN A GOC DECISION SUBSTITUTE CONSORTIUM MEMBERSHIP FOR CONTINUED ICCS PARTICIPATION. END SUMMARY.

1. FROM PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH
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EXTAFF OFFICIALS, IT IS APPARENT THAT GOC WILL CONTRIBUTE TO POSTWAR INDOCHINA RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. FROM PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH IBRD CONSORTIA (E. G., INDIA AND PAKISTAN) AND IBRD CONSULTATIVE GROUPS (E. G., THOSE FOR SEVERAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES) IT ALSO CLEAR THAT CANADIANS ARE SYMPATHETIC WITH WORLD BANK AS CONDUIT FOR MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE. MAJOR QUESTION IN PRESENT CASE IS TIMING. RECENT LEVEL OF HOSTILITIES INCLUDING LOSS OF ICCS HELICOPTER DOCUMENTED IN DEPARTMENT' S NOTE OF APRIL 20 (STATE 73726) MAKES IT PROBLEMATIC WHETHER THAT GOC WOULD AGREE THAT SECURITY IS NOW ADEQUATE TO PERMIT BOTH RECONSTRUCTION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. MOREOVER, CANADIAN REQUIREMENT OF NEUTRAL STANCE AS ICCS MEMBER WOULD ARGUE FOR SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT PROGRAMS IN NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM RATHER THAN PARTICIPATION ONLY IN CONSULTATIVE GROUP FOR SOUTH VIETNAM EVEN THOUGH NORTH MAY BE UNRESPONSIVE TO OFFERS OF AID.

2. THROUGH CONSULTATIONS WITH ITS IBRD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOC WILL BE FULLY AWARE PLANS OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP; HOWEVER IT UNLIKELY DECISION ON AID TO INDOCHINA WILL BE MADE UNTIL FUTURE OF ICCS ROLE IS RESOLVED IN COMING WEEKS. IN INTERIM, WE CONTINUE TO HAVE RESERVATIONS (REF C) ABOUT BILATERAL APPROACH JUST YET TO URGE GOC TO PARTICIPATE IN WHAT SOME QUARTERS WOULD CONSIDER TO BE CONVENIENT ALTERNATIVE TO PEACE SUPERVISORY ROLE WITH USG BLESSING.
SCHMIDT

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OTTAWA01006
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730453/aaaaiyop.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION TRSE
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 71066 (B) STATE 71100 (, 73 OTTAWA 964
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Sep-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <09-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980203
Subject: IBRD AID CONSORTIUM FOR SOUTH VIETNAM
TAGS: EAID, CA, VS, IBRD
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
TRSE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005